

# MAIL.

Published every Evening, with which is incorporated The "Hongkong Evening Mail and Shipping List."

PRICE, \$24 PER ANNUM.


## Shipping

**Sailing Vessels.**


FOR LONDON,  
The 41 British Ship  
"SARAH NICHOLSON,"  
953. Tons Register. Captain  
MELKIN, will load here for the  
above Port, and will have quick despatch.

For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong, February 8. 1878.

**FOR NEW YORK.**

**FOR NEW YORK.**  
 The 4-1 American Ship  
**"HAZE"**  
 WILKINS, Master, will load  
 here and at Whampoa, and will  
 have quick despatch as above.  
 For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
 Hongkong, February 1, 1876.

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**FOR PORTLAND (OREGON.)**  
 The 4-1 American Ship  
**"SAMUEL G. REED"**  
 WHITE, Master, will load  
 for the above Port, and will have

might apply to

For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong, February 1, 1876.

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**FOR SAN FRANCISCO.**  
The A-1 American Ship  
"LATHLEY RICH,"  
THOS. MITCHEL, Master, will  
load for the above, For, and  
will have quick despatch.  
For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong - February 1, 1876.

THOM. MITCHELL, Manager  
 Lord for the above I

THOS MITCHELL, Master, will  
load for the above Port, and  
will have quick despatch.  
For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong, February 1, 1876.

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**FOR SAN FRANCISCO.**  
The A-1 British Clipper-ship  
"GRYNE"


load for the above

1208, ROSKITA, MASTER, will  
load for the above Port, and  
will have immediate despatch.  
For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong, February 1, 1876.

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**FOR NEW YORK.**

The A 1 American Ba  
"CRUSADER

 The All American Park  
"CRUSADER,"  
FRED. GORHAM, Master, will  
load here and at Whampoa,  
and will have quick despatch as above.  
For Freight, apply to  
VOGEL HAGEDORN & CO.

of January 21, 1876.

Hongkong, January 21, 1876.

**FOR LONDON.**  
The A 1 British Bark  
"CRAIGIE LEA,"  
of 605 Tons Register, Captain  
T. LARDY, will load here and  
Whampoa, and will have quick despatch

1998, 1999, 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011, 2012, 2013, 2014, 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023, 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028, 2029, 2030, 2031, 2032, 2033, 2034, 2035, 2036, 2037, 2038, 2039, 2040, 2041, 2042, 2043, 2044, 2045, 2046, 2047, 2048, 2049, 2050, 2051, 2052, 2053, 2054, 2055, 2056, 2057, 2058, 2059, 2060, 2061, 2062, 2063, 2064, 2065, 2066, 2067, 2068, 2069, 2070, 2071, 2072, 2073, 2074, 2075, 2076, 2077, 2078, 2079, 2080, 2081, 2082, 2083, 2084, 2085, 2086, 2087, 2088, 2089, 2090, 2091, 2092, 2093, 2094, 2095, 2096, 2097, 2098, 2099, 2100, 2101, 2102, 2103, 2104, 2105, 2106, 2107, 2108, 2109, 2110, 2111, 2112, 2113, 2114, 2115, 2116, 2117, 2118, 2119, 2120, 2121, 2122, 2123, 2124, 2125, 2126, 2127, 2128, 2129, 2130, 2131, 2132, 2133, 2134, 2135, 2136, 2137, 2138, 2139, 2140, 2141, 2142, 2143, 2144, 2145, 2146, 2147, 2148, 2149, 2150, 2151, 2152, 2153, 2154, 2155, 2156, 2157, 2158, 2159, 2160, 2161, 2162, 2163, 2164, 2165, 2166, 2167, 2168, 2169, 2170, 2171, 2172, 2173, 2174, 2175, 2176, 2177, 2178, 2179, 2180, 2181, 2182, 2183, 2184, 2185, 2186, 2187, 2188, 2189, 2190, 2191, 2192, 2193, 2194, 2195, 2196, 2197, 2198, 2199, 2200, 2201, 2202, 2203, 2204, 2205, 2206, 2207, 2208, 2209, 2210, 2211, 2212, 2213, 2214, 2215, 2216, 2217, 2218, 2219, 2220, 2221, 2222, 2223, 2224, 2225, 2226, 2227, 2228, 2229, 2230, 2231, 2232, 2233, 2234, 2235, 2236, 2237, 2238, 2239, 2240, 2241, 2242, 2243, 2244, 2245, 2246, 2247, 2248, 2249, 2250, 2251, 2252, 2253, 2254, 2255, 2256, 2257, 2258, 2259, 2260, 2261, 2262, 2263, 2264, 2265, 2266, 2267, 2268, 2269, 2270, 2271, 2272, 2273, 2274, 2275, 2276, 2277, 2278, 2279, 2280, 2281, 2282, 2283, 2284, 2285, 2286, 2287, 2288, 2289, 2290, 2291, 2292, 2293, 2294, 2295, 2296, 2297, 2298, 2299, 2300, 2301, 2302, 2303, 2304, 2305, 2306, 2307, 2308, 2309, 2310, 2311, 2312, 2313, 2314, 2315, 2316, 2317, 2318, 2319, 2320, 2321, 2322, 2323, 2324, 2325, 2326, 2327, 2328, 2329, 2330, 2331, 2332, 2333, 2334, 2335, 2336, 2337, 2338, 2339, 2340, 2341, 2342, 2343, 2344, 2345, 2346, 2347, 2348, 2349, 2350, 2351, 2352, 2353, 2354, 2355, 2356, 2357, 2358, 2359, 2360, 2361, 2362, 2363, 2364, 2365, 2366, 2367, 2368, 2369, 2370, 2371, 2372, 2373, 2374, 2375, 2376, 2377, 2378, 2379, 2380, 2381, 2382, 2383, 2384, 2385, 2386, 2387, 2388, 2389, 2390, 2391, 2392, 2393, 2394, 2395, 2396, 2397, 2398, 2399, 2400, 2401, 2402, 2403, 2404, 2405, 2406, 2407, 2408, 2409, 2410, 2411, 2412, 2413, 2414, 2415, 2416, 2417, 2418, 2419, 2420, 2421, 2422, 2423, 2424, 2425, 2426, 2427, 2428, 2429, 2430, 2431, 2432, 2433, 2434, 2435, 2436, 2437, 2438, 2439, 2440, 2441, 2442, 2443, 2444, 2445, 2446, 2447, 2448, 2449, 2450, 2451, 2452, 2453, 2454, 2455, 2456, 2457, 2458, 2459, 2460, 2461, 2462, 2463, 2464, 2465, 2466, 2467, 2468, 2469, 2470, 2471, 2472, 2473, 2474, 2475, 2476, 2477, 2478, 2479, 2480, 2481, 2482, 2483, 2484, 2485, 2486, 2487, 2488, 2489, 2490, 2491, 2492, 2493, 2494, 2495, 2496, 2497, 2498, 2499, 2500, 2501, 2502, 2503, 2504, 2505, 2506, 2507, 2508, 2509, 2510, 2511, 2512, 2513, 2514, 2515, 2516, 2517, 2518, 2519, 2520, 2521, 2522, 2523, 2524, 2525, 2526, 2527, 2528, 2529, 2530, 2531, 2532, 2533, 2534, 2535, 2536, 2537, 2538, 2539, 2540, 2541, 2542, 2543, 2544, 2545, 2546, 2547, 2548, 2549, 2550, 2551, 2552, 2553, 2554, 2555, 2556, 2557, 2558, 2559, 2560, 2561, 2562, 2563, 2564, 2565, 2566, 2567, 2568, 2569, 2570, 2571, 2572, 2573, 2574, 2575, 2576, 2577, 2578, 2579, 2580, 2581, 2582, 2583, 2584, 2585, 2586, 2587, 2588, 2589, 2590, 2591, 2592, 2593, 2594, 2595, 2596, 2597, 2598, 2599, 2600, 2601, 2602, 2603, 2604, 2605, 2606, 2607, 2608, 2609, 2610, 2611, 2612, 2613, 2614, 2615, 2616, 2617, 2618, 2619, 2620, 2621, 2622, 2623, 2624, 2625, 2626, 2627, 2628, 2629, 2630, 2631, 2632, 2633, 2634, 2635, 2636, 2637, 2638, 2639, 2640, 2641, 2642, 2643, 2644, 2645, 2646, 2647, 2648, 2649, 2650, 2651, 2652, 2653, 2654, 2655, 2656, 2657, 2658, 2659, 2660, 2661, 2662, 2663, 2664, 2665, 2666, 2667, 2668, 2669, 2670, 2671, 2672, 2673, 2674, 2675, 2676, 2677, 2678, 2679, 26

For Freight, apply to  
**VOGEL, HAGEDORN & Co.**  
Hongkong, January 10, 1876.

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**FOR MELBOURNE & SYDNEY.**  
*Calling at Adelaide if sufficient inducement*

The 4.2 British Bush

The A 1 British Bark  
"NOVELTY"  
LIMEX, Master, will load here  
for the above Ports, and will  
have quick dispatch.  
For Freight, apply to  
RUSSELL & Co,

2, JANUARY 7, 1878.

**Hongkong, January 7, 1878.**

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**Mails.**

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**COMPAGNIE DES MESSAGERIES  
MARITIMES.**

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**PAQUEBOTS POSTE FRANÇAIS.**

**STEAM FOR**

STEAM-POW  
IGON, SINGAPORE, BATAVIA,  
OINT DE GALLE, ADEN, SUEZ,  
ISMAILA, PORT SAID, NAPLES,  
AND MARSEILLES;  
AND  
PONDICHERRY, MADRAS AND

**CALCUTTA.**

**CALCUTTA.**  
**ON THURSDAY,** the 10th February,  
 1876, at Noon, the Company's S. S.  
**WADYR,** Commandant **Dr. BURMAN,**  
**MAILS, PASSENGERS, SPECIE,**  
**CARGO,** will leave this Port for the  
 two places.  
 Cargo and Specie will be registered for  
 duty at 10 o'clock.

pass through Maricao, and  
pass through Maricao

work as well as for Marseille, and acted in transit through Marseilles for principal places of Europe. Shipping orders will be granted all goods to go will be received on board until 11 a.m., Specie and Passes until 2 p.m., on the 9th February, 1878 (Passes are to be sent on board; they must be left to the Agency's Office.) Contents and value of Packages are as

7-10-77 414023

or further particulars," apply at the  
Company's Office.  
G DE CHAMPREAUX,  
Acting Agent,  
Hongkong, February 2, 1904. 1614







carried into the mainland of China, and as a proof of their currency in the interior, they have reached a high premium, while the Hongkong dollars are at a discount of more than ten per cent.

The Straits Times says:—"There is a report current that His Excellency Sir William Drummond Jervois has resigned. We do not know what truth there may be in this report, but we should not be at all surprised to find it true, and we are perfectly certain that His Excellency will carry with him the warm sympathy of the three Settlements." If true, this action will, we presume, have been taken in view of home disapproval of his policy with regard to annexing or "administering" Tokak.

At the Marine Court to-day, H. Ryding, cook of the steamer Stentor, was charged with being absent without leave and ordered to forfeit 2 days' pay.

Adam Wilson, boatswain of the British barque Craigie Lea, was charged with stealing ship's stores during the voyage from Newcastle to Hongkong, and further with making away with ship's property since her arrival in port. The Captain said he had missed various articles during the voyage, amongst which were two or three sheets of metal, a new tarpaulin and a large snatch-block. These things were under the defendant's charge, as he was boatswain of the ship. Charles Dupin, a boy on board, stated that he had seen the boatswain, on the 11th Nov., about 2 past 2 p.m., take a bag and a chest and go into the after hold, where the sugar was kept, and return shortly afterwards with about 6 lbs. of sugar. He did not inform on him as he was afraid, he being in the boatswain's watch. He had none of the sugar. He on another occasion saw some wire rigging passed up from the forehold, but could not say what became of it. Since arriving at Hongkong on the 18th ultimo, he had seen defendant throw a sack of rope (shaking) overboard. Charles Miller, an A. B., gave evidence as to the rope being thrown overboard, and also three coils of wire. On one occasion he had seen him throw a plank, 20 feet long, overboard. The defendant denied the charge, and called the carpenter to support him. The carpenter, Gilbert, said he had seen the defendant, and he had bought some sugar in Newcastle for his own use. The defendant was allowed to use it. He never saw him with any sugar except that which he was allowed. Several things had been missed from the ship, but he could not say who took them. The defendant was ordered to pay \$13, the value of the missing articles and be discharged from the ship.

Misses Hedges & Co.'s Weekly Shipping Report, dated Pagoda Anchorage, 5th Feb., gives the following:—  
Arrivals During the Week.—Feb. 2, Yesso, from Hongkong; 2, Midge, from Oahu; 3, Marie Heydora, from Amoy; 4, Yaku, from Shanghai.  
Departures During the Week.—Jan. 28, Howang, for Shanghai; 28, Cyclop, for Shanghai; 30, Douglass, for Hongkong.  
Shipping in Port.—Charles Palmer, Lulu, Yesso, Midge, Marie Heydora, Taku.  
The Philadelphia Bulletin editorially says:—"We have just visited and seen the Keely motor in operation. The secrets and the workings of this new engine, as well as the capacity of this new motive power or new force, have not been, and perhaps for some time will not be, fully described. One thing, however, is certain; the power used is cold vapor; it is generated without heat, without light, without the use of chemicals. And it may be stated, and it is stated absolutely, without fear of contradiction, that the force generated from a quart of water is sufficient of itself to propel an ocean steamer. Nor can it be limited except by the strength of the materials composing the engine in which the force is generated and applied."

The Hongkong correspondent of the Cologne Gazette writes:—"The different provinces of China contain hardly 1 per cent. of Mahomedans. They are generally tranquil subjects, dress like the Chinese, trade, and are admitted to the literary examinations and to places in the public service. Where they live closer together, in the south-west, Yunnan, and in the west, Turkestan, they are inclined to rebellions. In Eastern Turkestan the bold Mahomedan chief, Yakub, has already taken the title of Khan, conquered the towns of the country, and expelled the Chinese garrisons. Nearly every Manchu Emperor of China, down to Taikwang, has been obliged to reconquer this province with many sacrifices. The question is now, whether the armies of the Emperor Kwangsu will be able to master the present rising, or whether the Russians would then be the probable next heirs. For the present the brigand tribes would like to form an independent Mahomedan State, and have demanded help from the Sultan. The Turkish journal Sadakat accuses the Chinese of persecution of the Mahomedans, and the news has arrived here that the Sultan intends to send an embassy to Peking. The Chinese would not like to receive it, for they fear from it a reinforcement of the agitated Mahomedan elements. A full account it would be interesting for the diplomatists at Peking to receive a Turkish colleague.

#### Police Intelligence.

(Before James Russell, Esq.)  
9th February, 1876.

#### ALLIANCE.

Robert Franklin, a seaman unemployed, was charged with selling the poker of a drunken seaman at a restaurant. It turned out, however, that the seaman in question was a shipmate of the defendant, in fact they were "chums," and he had requested the defendant to take care of any money he might have in his pocket if he got drunk. The defendant was therefore discharged.

#### DRUNKENNESS.

James Brown, seaman on board the

British ship Birker, was fined 25 cents for being drunk.

#### UNLICENSED FLYING FOR HIRE.

Pang Moon-tai, a boatman, was charged with plying for hire without a license by Mr. Wm. Molellan, Inspector of Cargo boats to the Harbour Master's department. He had been told to get his boat ready for inspection towards the end of last year, in order that a new license might be granted to him. He did not do so and yet continued to ply. Fined \$2.

#### A DRUNKEN SOLDIER.

Michael Horton, a private H. M. 28th Regiment, was charged with making a disturbance in a brothel and assaulting an inmate therein. He appeared to have gone there sober and returned to it drunk. He accused the inmate with having stolen \$4 from her, and broke a door. Constable Jones, No. 134, was called in, but he found the defendant in Cochrane Street, with his coat off. He was drunk and charged the second steward of the City of Peking with stealing \$4 from him. The Constable spoke to the steward, who said the defendant wanted to strike a Chinaman and he prevented him. Jones then took the soldier to the Station, but he was very violent, so that other assistance had to be obtained. The second steward said he was going along in a chair when the defendant ran up, seized one of the chair-coolies and charged him with stealing \$4 from him. The steward then made the men set down the chair and got out of it himself. He next charged the steward with stealing the money from him, saying he was the "boss" of the house. He had created quite an excitement. Sergeant Bayes, of the C. Company, gave the defendant a very good character. He had, however, joined only shortly before departure from Malta. Fined \$3.

#### THEFT.

Chan Atim, a servant, who was charged with being found on the premises of Mr. E. Moore, was again brought up, and fined \$2.

#### CONTRIBUTORY NEGLIGENCE.

Kwok Aing, a boatman, was charged by Chu Angan, a Water Policeman, with coming into collision with his police boat, and breaking an oar. The defendant said the complainant came right across the bows of his boat and thus caused the accident. The Magistrate discharged the case, holding that there was no criminal offence, but suggesting that each should pay one half the damage as contributory negligence appeared to have existed. The defendant signified his willingness to do so.

#### LARCENY.

Chan Yook Wong was remanded on a charge of stealing a box from a Chinese passenger who arrived by the Stentor from Singapore yesterday. The box which contained \$60, and clothing to the value of \$55, was stolen suddenly from the complainant, and the defendant was afterwards found in possession of it.

#### CORRESPONDENCE.

##### A REQUIREMENT.

To the Editor of the "CHINA MAIL."  
Hongkong, February 9, 1876.

Sir,—Will you permit me, through your columns, to call the attention of the authorities to a great requirement in our municipal arrangements, viz., street latrines? There is a total absence of attention in this Colony to accommodation of this kind; and the fact is frequently remarked upon, especially by strangers. Surely the expense would not be ruinous, as two or three on the principal thoroughfares would be sufficient. Trusting the authorities may take the hint, I am, &c.

A. B. C.

#### China.

##### FOUCHOW.

(Herald, February 3.)  
Now that H. B. M.'s S. Midge has arrived, her gallant officers and crew will, we trust, afford the community the inestimable privilege of witnessing a second dramatic entertainment of the same excellent character as the representation given last month.

We hear that a Chinese pilot boat, belonging to this Port, with two Europeans on board, very nearly came to grief between Tarnabout Island and the White Dogs, during the stormy weather of last week. The great exertions were necessary in order to get the little vessel safely into port. She is said to be badly found as a sea-going craft.

The natives report that a blight has fallen on the numerous Mok-leo plantations in the neighbourhood of the Settlement. This report is, to a certain extent, confirmed by our own observations, but it remains to be seen if the calamity is so widespread as it is asserted to be. The flower of the Mok-leo, as most of our readers are aware, is used in the preparation of Scented Tea.

A large Swatow junk, laden with a miscellaneous cargo, was burnt at her moorings near the Long Bridge, on Sunday morning last. The fire is supposed to have been caused by an incendiary. Fortunately, the wind was blowing straight down the river at the time, otherwise the fire would have spread and probably destroyed a number of other vessels that were moored in the same line.

The Provincial Government has on hand a few heavy pieces of modern ordnance, which, it would, we are sure, be delighted to get into position, if it only knew how to accomplish that desirable end. Some of these guns are rusting at the Mamul Arsenal, others are buried in the mud of Takao. All are useless to their present owners, who, ere long, will, no doubt, be obliged to dispose of them as old metal.

Many of our readers may have noticed the inconvenience occasioned by the conveyance of poles of timber through the narrow and crowded streets of the Settlement. It may not, however, be generally known that this method of transporting timber is adopted, in preference to the easier water route, with a view to evading the bulky duty which is usually assessed

above bridge. The saving thus effected is estimated at a very trifling sum per pole.

The "Cumshaw" nuisance, to which we referred in our last number, is not confined to "chair coolies." The bustling population—men, women, and children—have paraded the Settlement during the last week, laying black-mail on foreigners indiscriminately. The women—bolder than the men—have been loudest in their appeals, any coin of less value than a dollar being, apparently, beneath their notice. These hard-boned daughters of Han pursued many a timid and irresolute bachelor, with a perseverance worthy of a better cause; in many cases ruthlessly invading the unfortunate man's private apartments.

It is rumored that H. M.'s Government seriously contemplate the erection of a flag-staff in front of the British Consulate. We were under the impression that one had arrived last summer, but it appears that the white ants had taken possession of the pole long before it became the property of H. M.'s Government. In other words, the new flag-staff was rotten! It is, at least, interesting to learn, even at this late hour, that the matter has not altogether escaped the notice of the Authorities. The British flag was last seen flying from H. B. M.'s Consulate in 1866. It is now 1876. Consilium Jonathan may well crow and little Denmark exult!

The following extraordinary letter was received on Monday, by the Editor of this journal. "It is herewith honour to write to you by this during the day that I visited in the office of you and obtained your worthful command since I left the time is also two days now I am waiting outside again but the matter in reality how it is and anxious you kindly let me have the information. Furthermore am I wishes very much and beg you tenderly would cause me to possess the same as my letter before either containing or mentioned." What did this individual want?—A Cumshaw! Did he get it?—Yes! and, we think, that, on obvious grounds, he fully deserved it.

The Races at Amoy appear to have passed off to the satisfaction of everybody, more particularly the visitors. The first day of the meeting was very enjoyable—owing to the splendid weather; but on the second day, the course was heavy, both for man and beast, in consequence of a sharp fall of rain on the previous night. The racing on both days was extremely good, and several cups were carried off by Foochow-owned ponies. Our correspondent notes, with evident pleasure, the favor bestowed on the Amoy turf by the ladies—all of whom, with a very few exceptions, honoured the meeting by being present. The heaviest bet reported was to the extent of \$5, between two owners of horse flesh—both canny Scots. On the Thursday and Friday following, there was a Cricket Match—Hongkong v. Coast Ports—which was won by the Hongkongites by 48 runs. A Theatrical performance on Thursday evening, was a great success. The pieces represented were—"On Delicate Ground," and "Betsey Baker." Two lady residents kindly assisted. On Friday evening, the Hongkongites were defeated at both bowls and billiards, and sustained a further defeat on the following day, when Amoy was victorious at Racquets. Sunday, despite the protests of a few "Amoy" guided people, was devoted to another day's outing, a monster picnic bringing the week's festivities to a close. The visitors speak in the highest terms, we understand, of the kindness and hospitality of the residents.

They manage some matters better at Hongkong. For firing crackers after the prohibited hour, 233 Chinese house-holders were fined \$1 each, on the 27th ultimo.

After making some severe remarks against the British Registration Tax imposition, the Herald thus concludes:—"Is not the British Government—with an annual revenue of 275,000,000, about £6,000,000 of which is derived from the Tea duties alone—under some sort of obligation, irrespective of this petty and most vexatious tax, to afford protection to the merchants and others through whose industry and enterprise the Empire at large is benefited? There are, at a rough guess, about 2,000 British subjects resident in China and Japan (we do not include Hongkong). Many of these evade payment of the tax. Others—mechanics and artisans—pay only \$2 per annum; but for the sake of argument, we will allow that all comply with the Order in Council—What a miserable result! Is it not plain as day that if the Government abandoned the hated impost—to-morrow, England would not miss the wretched amount, and a fertile source of discontent would be removed."

It appears to us that the primary registration fee is not so much objected to, although it is out of all proportion to the labour involved in preparing the certificate, but the system of annual registration, and the tax which accompanies it, will always be unpopular in an Anglo-Saxon community, possessed of a keen sense of justice and right.

In conclusion, a few words regarding the document itself (Certificate of Registration) may not be inappropriate. In characterizing it as utterly worthless for any practical purpose—except as a bare acknowledgment of the holder being a British subject—we do not feel that we overstep the bounds of fair criticism. In the event of the holder getting into trouble with the natives up-country, the production of such a document would have about as much effect on the minds of the unruly Celestials as a copy of (we do not say it irreverently) the China Almanac. Yet the holder is requested to keep it carefully, if he "would avoid delay and inconvenience while resident or travelling in China."

#### SHANGHAI.

(Courier & Gazette.)  
There appears to be a good deal of swindling going on just now among the Chinese, in the way of passing false notes. A gentleman from the North, named Wang Wei-ohing, was recently brought up at the French Mixed Court on a charge of having purchased about ten-tails' worth of prepared opium of a dealer named Oh'ou, and tendering forged notes in payment. The accused admitted the transaction, and was being suspended of such a crime, said that he was a stranger, newly arrived in

Shanghai; and proudly informed the Court that he was a Manchu and a "chou-pai-jin" (a White Banner man). He was searched, nevertheless, in spite of his aristocratic pretensions, and upon his person were found several more notes, fac-similes of those he had already attempted to pass. The wretch in charge accordingly packed him off to the Che-kiang's yards in custody.

We are given to understand that there is a possibility of the *Ipsu* being repatriated. Nothing has been decided hitherto, we believe, and we are not in a position to state whether its reappearance depends upon pecuniary or proprietary considerations; the printing-press, as our readers no doubt remember, used to be of a somewhat rustic disposition, and required periodical holocausts of pigs and oranges to keep it in a good temper. We hope, however, that the present negotiations, of whatever nature they may be, will prove successful, and that the deserving object of the promoters may be sooner or later achieved.

We hear a rumour that Shen Pao-chien, the popular and sensible Viceroy of the Liang Kiang, is shortly to be removed to a more important post in the Capital. The inhabitants of Nanking will doubtless regret his loss, and with reason; unless, indeed, his place is filled by Ting Jih-chang—an event which, we hear, is not improbable. Ting lately succeeded Shen as Fu-tai of En-kiun and Inspector of the Foochow and Kiangnan Armies; and being an able and enlightened man, it would seem a natural arrangement were he to follow his predecessor a step higher. As for the post to which Shen has been appointed in Peking, we know nothing whatever about it; but it is always satisfactory when a sensible man, and one acquainted with foreign affairs, is added to the roll of officials in the metropolis, and we are gratified to see a man of Shen's calibre possessing an amount of confidence and good-will on the part of the Government that results in such very rapid promotion.

#### SOOCHOW.

(Courier Correspondent.)

February 1st, 1876.  
On the night of January 30th, some thieves entered the house of Rev. W. H. Holt and broke open a safe containing three or four hundred dollars. Mr. Holt was away from home attending the annual meeting of his mission; but there were two families of Chinese in the house, and the safe on account of its great weight was on the ground floor, so that if any attempt to break it open was made these natives must undoubtedly have heard the noise. The missionaries thought, therefore, that the money in the safe was secure. Some time on Sunday night, however, the 30th of January, the top of the safe was cut open. To do this it was only necessary to cut through a plate of wrought iron less than a quarter of an inch thick; and when a hole large enough to admit a man's hand was made, the thieves found a drawer which did not contain the money.

On Monday morning a foreigner with whom the key of the safe was left went to get some of his money which he had put into the safe thinking that it would be secure there. He found both his own money and that of the Presbyterian missionaries, untouched!

#### NANKING.

(Courier Correspondent.)

January 21st, 1876.  
One of the signs of official life in this portion of the Middle Kingdom is the rebuilding of the large bridge opposite the South Gate. At the time the one was built (and who knows when that was?) the stream was much wider than it is at present, so that it was necessary to have five arches. Now three arches could span it easily, and be both cheaper and better, but "Old Custom" must be carried out and hence five small arches will be erected, though two of them will be over dry land, and the others too small for any large boat to go under. However, it is employing a number of hands and so far doing good. While talking of the bridge may mention a circumstance which occurred the other day. A butcher, while standing on the bank looking at the men at work, suddenly slipped and fell, the small of his back coming in contact with a chip of granite, which must have injured the spine, as he was unable to rise; so he was carried to a slaughter-house near where he had been employed. He lay there all day, and during the evening died. How to account for his death was the next difficulty; but that was soon overcome when it was remembered that every new bridge must have a spirit to support it, otherwise it would speedily come to grief. Therefore, as a matter of course, the masons had, by working some charm, killed the unfortunate butcher in order to obtain his spirit to uphold their bridge. The work can now go merrily on without any fear of its ever falling down, but I am given to understand that this sort of "will set a great deal of bitterness!" I wonder if there is any way in China of relieving a soul from such misery by paying money, as can be done in some countries we have read of? Owing to a firm belief in this superstition, it has been rather an anxious time since the commencement of the work with mothers living in the neighbourhood, and a "protection" against all such spells they have sworn a place of red cloth on a shoulder of their young hopefuls with following lines written thereon:—

自速自石  
去速呼叫  
頂同自石  
橋家承和  
橫轉當向

"To keep the bridge from falling  
The masons cast a spell  
From day to day they're calling—  
Just let them give their own."

I noticed a paragraph in one of your issues about the doings of a wretch, which might lead one to suppose that no opium is to be sold in this city. This is not so. Besides the many shops in which the drug can be bought there are numerous stands on the streets for its sale. But there are no opium dens; those who smoke must smoke at home. It is true, however, that there are spies going about, and if any one is overheard grumbling against this order of things, he is politely invited to step to the French. It would seem that grumbling is not altogether unknown in China, especially at this season of the year. The other evening while my teacher's aunt, an old lady of some fifty years, was out making her New Year's purchases, a ruffian came behind, and placing his left hand over her eyes with the other he snatched her fifty-tails, and then

made off before the old lady could call for help.

The year has opened auspiciously for Shanghai when it has brought to life such an invaluable addition to its newspaper literature as the *Commonwealth*. But who is the great unknown who guides the goose-quill? In the usual place I only find the printer's name, than which none could be better. But the Art-preservation of all Arts alone will never preserve a newspaper, and if it is only as well posted on other subjects as he appears to be on "The Chinese Literature," he must not object to a little criticism. If he will confine himself to the "Literati of Mission Schools" we will not question his assertion "that it is difficult to get to the bottom of their ignorance," but before condemning all China's men of letters he had better seek farther than this even though one was possessed of "superior facilities for learning," and another "the son of one of the oldest and most intelligent pastors in Shanghai," and the third an "ordained minister." And as a means to that end I would respectfully recommend to the editor of the *Commonwealth* a careful study of the scientific instruction given in the *Child's Paper*, which would seem to be, according to the *Commonwealth*, the one thing needful for the renovation of China.

#### NEWCHWANG.

Messrs Bush Brothers of Newchwang issue the following, dated 3rd January, 1876:—"We had this pleasure from 15th ultimo, since when we are without letters returned from the South, although the first courier Business is stagnant, and we do not look for a revival till after China New Year."

Malacca.—The quotation is nominally Tls. 610 to Tls. 520 with slow delivery.

Exports.—Large quantities of produce daily arrive from the interior, but rates remain unusually high:—

Beans Tls. 8.50 per 10 pieces, Peas Tls. 2.75 per 300 catties, Oil Tls. 3.25 per 95 catties; Cash—Delivery in Spring.

#### COREA.

(Heron Shimbun.)

When people heard that Kuroda was to be sent to Corea as an envoy with full powers, they said that the question of peace or war rested with him. But when Inouye was appointed as second envoy, people not fully understanding what this should mean, began to make all kinds of conjectures, and rumours of all descriptions began to fly about. Some of these represented what people really thought, while others were circulated for private purposes; but no distinction can be made between them. We will give a few specimens.

"There are some among the higher officials who greatly like Inouye, and are anxious to place him in some high position in the Government. But as he has been under grave suspicion in relation to the Oseungwa mine affair, and has thereby lost his reputation among the people, his appointment to a high post will cause a great outcry, and thus he has been made the second Korean envoy in order that he might settle the Korean affair, and so restore his damaged reputation."

Others say—"Kuroda is a man of a bold description, and should the Koreans insult him with any show of their pride during the negotiations, he might declare war immediately, and as this would be dangerous, Inouye, who is of a milder disposition, was appointed to accompany him."

Others again say—"Okubo has held the reins of Government during the last year, but latterly affairs have fallen into so disordered a state that war with Corea has become unavoidable. But as Okubo was prominent among those who opposed war with Corea some years ago, he cannot now very well be made its usher, and he has therefore secretly ordered Kawamura, Vice-Minister of the Navy, to prepare for war with Corea, and as Kuroda is on friendly terms with Okubo, he spoke as though his intentions were peaceful, while his real purpose is war. It is for this reason that the vessels of the *Kaitakushi* have been employed in this mission, instead of those of the Navy Department. When I heard what was purposed, he determined that it would not do, and, after consulting with Kido, resolved on the appointment of Inouye as vice-ambassador, and the reason why Inouye went to Osaka a few days previous to the departure of Kuroda, was to purchase bribes for the Korean officials."

Others are sending an ambassador from our noble Japan, there is no need for this foolish action beforehand. We see a good reason for sending two envoys of such different views, and these rumours must surely be false. Should they turn out to be true, we doubt if the honour of this country will be preserved in Corea. The sending of these two envoys must mean that some profound scheme has been made by the Government, and the street rumours are unworthy of belief.—*Japan Weekly Mail*.

#### THE PERAK EXPEDITION.

The Straits Times contains, amongst a good deal of other interesting matter, the following letter, which gives a rather unsatisfactory idea of the position.

Qualla Kangor, Dec. 31.

On the last day of the year I write to tell you that the end of this campaign has begun. Yesterday afternoon General Ross and Staff came up from Blanga. The result of his conference with General Colborne is, that it is decided that nothing more can be done but occupy the country and endeavour to starve the Sultan into submission. It is very probable that you will shortly see the Major General in Penang, he having come to the conclusion that he has done all he can do. We have not much to boast of in this war; the Malays have decidedly done us more harm than we have done them. The lives of Birch and Innes are not to be atoned for by the burning of a few flimsy huts, and the shooting of a few ignorant innocent followers of the chiefs. Our object in invading the country was to capture the instigators of the outrage, and this we have not done and do not seem likely to do. The onset of the season for us was, call it nothing else, but with the force down the river, who upset all the preconceived plan of campaign by their rapid advance in total disregard of the movements of the Indian column. It is difficult to divine with what object the party was pushed on so rapidly. It can hardly have been with the hope that our troops would overtake the Malays. Even if they had been overtaken, which is extremely improbable, they had always the jungle to take to and there Europeans could not have followed them. If, on the other hand, as was intended, the Buffs had got up to Kinta first, the enemy might have been hedged in between the two parties and would have been very soon starved or shot off. It

is very hard for this column that they should have been brought all the way from India to improve the state of Qualla Kangor, afterwards to be handed back to Malays. If the country up to the Perak river was to be annexed it would be some slight consolation; but the attitude of the Home Government seems to preclude any idea of even part of this section of the Peninsula being taken over.

The Buffs will probably remain here till relieved by the 10th, who are to be relieved by the 80th regiment from China, whom the 26th from home replace. In the meantime another fifty of the Buffs will go down to Blanga and put things to rights there, which, if report says true, is very much required. At Kinta the troops apparently are very ill off for supplies, the buffaloes which supplied them at first having been all devoured or scared away by the firing.

It is said that Sultan Ismail and his followers with elephants passed through Chiga Gela, a day or two before the blue-jacket expedition went to there. The headman of the village never thought of mentioning such a trivial event when asked the whereabouts of Ismail. And yet he, like the Ohe Mida (or the Sani), as she is called here, is our staunch friend, and remains staunch notwithstanding the proximity of the Sultan.

The new road is fast approaching completion and the stations along the route are all strengthened. The school at Enpiu under the supervision of Sub-Lieut. Holmes, has been made a strong defence to the Eastern month of the Pass; as will be found in another war, should the rebels not be dismantled when our troops leave the country.

General Ross proceeded to Lela Lany, on the 4th instant with 150 troops, he advanced along both banks of the river; the blue-jackets, 80 in number, in 8 boats went up by water. The village on the right bank was disarmed without opposition. On the left bank the troops marched through the village, which was found apparently deserted. A message was sent to General Ross to this effect. He then landed with his staff and 20 blue-jackets under Captain Garforth, and was joined by Lieut. Hare R.E. and 4 Goorkhas. This isolated party was surprised by armed Malays. Brigadier Major Hawkins, two seamen and one Goorkha were killed, Surgeon Townsend and 2 Goorkhas were wounded. The Malays were eventually driven back. The village was completely destroyed, and the force retired to Qualla Kangor. The loss of the Malay side is unknown, 8 dead were found on the field.

#### COMMERICAL.

The statistics we published in the *Celestial Empire* show a very large decrease in the stocks of Opium as compared with last year. There are 871 chests of Malwa, and 600 chests of Bengal Drug this year against 3,665 and 1,728 respectively at the same time in 1875. Stocks of Shikings and other manufactures are also on a very moderate scale, and in view of the scarcity of Sycee, it already becomes a question of how the next Tea and Silk crops are to be paid for.—*Courier and Gazette*.

#### Quotations.

HONGKONG, Feb. 9, 1876.

OPIMUM.—New Malwa, cash, 603 1/2 credit, 603 1/2  
" Old Malwa, cash, 597 1/2 credit, 597 1/2  
" New Bonares, cash, 597 1/2 credit, 597 1/2  
" Old Bonares, cash, 597 1/2 credit, 597 1/2  
" New Malwa, cash, 585 credit, 585  
" Allowance Teels, 4 s 6  
" Old Malwa, cash, 590 credit, 590  
" Allowance Teels, 4 s 6  
CAMPHOR, 144 s 15  
QUICKSILVER, 81  
SALTPETRE, 54 s 6

#### Exchange.

Bank, 6 months' sight, 3 1/2  
" 3 months' sight, 4  
On Calcutta, Bank demand, 2 3/4  
" Bombay, demand, 2 3/4  
" Shanghai, demand, 7 1/2  
" Shanghai, 30 days' sight, 7 1/2  
Bar Silver, 17 dwt. 2  
Sycee, 25  
Gold Lead, 25 1/2  
Gold Sovereign, 5 0 6  
Australian Sovereign, 5 0 7  
Discount, 5 s 6

#### Shares.

Hongkong Bank, 7 per cent. prem.  
H.K. Fire Ins. Co., \$550  
China Fire Ins. Co., \$145  
Victoria Fire Ins. Co., \$70  
H.K. & W. Dock Co., \$6 1/2 dia.  
China Traders Ins. Co., \$1600  
Union Ins. Society of Canton, \$400  
Chinese Insurance Co., \$220  
North China Ins. Co., Tls. 560  
O. & J. Marine Ins. Co., Tls. 107  
Yangtze Ins. Association, Tls. 600  
H.K. & S. M. S. Co., 5 dia.  
Union N. Navigation Co., Tls. 10  
Bangkok Steam N. Co., Tls. 75  
Hongkong Hotel Co., \$55 dia.  
Chinese Imperial Loan, £10 10

#### Temperatures.

HONGKONG, Feb. 9, 1876.

Taken at Messrs. Falconer & Co.'s Premises (Queen's Road).  
THERMOMETER.—9 A.M., 80  
Do, 4 P.M., 80 1/2  
Do, Maximum, 84  
Do, Minimum, 74  
BAROMETER.—9 A.M., 30.258  
Do, 4 P.M., 30.270

#### Shipping Intelligence.

##### HOME SHIPPING.

The following is given in the *London & China Express*, dated December 31—

DEPARTURES.  
Dec. 16, Ballons (str.) from Hamburg to Shanghai.  
Dec. 16, W. L. Lewis, from Cardiff to Manila.  
Dec. 17, Lord of the Isles (str.) from London to Shanghai.  
Dec. 17, Anna, from Cardiff to Hongkong.  
Dec. 26, Sled Amsterdam (str.) from Liverpool to Shanghai.  
Dec. 30, Diodora (str.) from Liverpool to Shanghai.  
Dec. 31, Oxfordshire (str.) from London to China.  
Dec. 31, Belvidere Will, (by Hongkong) (str.) repairing.



